

September

Division of Environmental Services

Safety message

From the Division Chief:

Driving is a daily part of our lives that we cannot seem to avoid. Since we spend so much time on the road, it is necessary we do not become complacent. Please take some time to think about driving defensively. Use the rear view mirrors and signal your intentions for lane changes or turns. Sometimes it doesn't matter how safely we drive, so it's important to watch-out for other drivers and riders using the road. While behind the steering wheel, keep these thoughts in mind.

Sincerely,
Dean Messer

Safety Moments

During our commute to and from work, being aware of our surroundings keeps us driving safely on the road. We should continue this awareness as we enter and leave the parking lot as well.

- Keep your parking lot speed below 10 MPH; it takes only few more seconds to drive slowly & cautiously.
- Check for vehicles backing out of parking spots or pedestrians walking across the lots.
- At our office parking lot, slow down and check for other vehicles before the 4-way merge into the parking lot and before exiting to Industrial Blvd.

Microcystis Alert

Microcystis aeruginosa is a cyanobacteria that produces toxins that are harmful to wildlife and humans. Body contact can lead to rashes and irritation, while ingestion can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fever, or sore throat.

If you're working in the water that may have *microcystis* blooms, please do not allow wet clothing to be in contact with your skin, wear gloves, and wash hands in clean water.

Hunting Safety Tips:

Fall is quickly approaching and along with it, comes hunting season. Some of us may be working in areas where hunting is permitted. Here are several items to keep in mind during any hunting season:

- Check hunting seasons and lands open to hunting.
- Wear bright clothing to make yourself more visible. Colors like fluorescent red, orange, and green are recommended. Avoid earth toned and animal colored clothing.
- Make noise (whistle, sing, or talk) to alert hunters to your presence. Once the hunter is aware of your presence, don't make unnecessary noise that disturbs wildlife.
- If you hear shooting, raise your voice and let hunters know that you are nearby.
- When in doubt, leave the area, and notify your Supervisor immediately.

Hunting season is generally from October-January. For more detailed information, visit:

<http://www.fgc.ca.gov/regulations/current/>

Think Safety, visit <http://swpsafety.water.ca.gov> for more information
Send suggestions or comments to dessafety@water.ca.gov